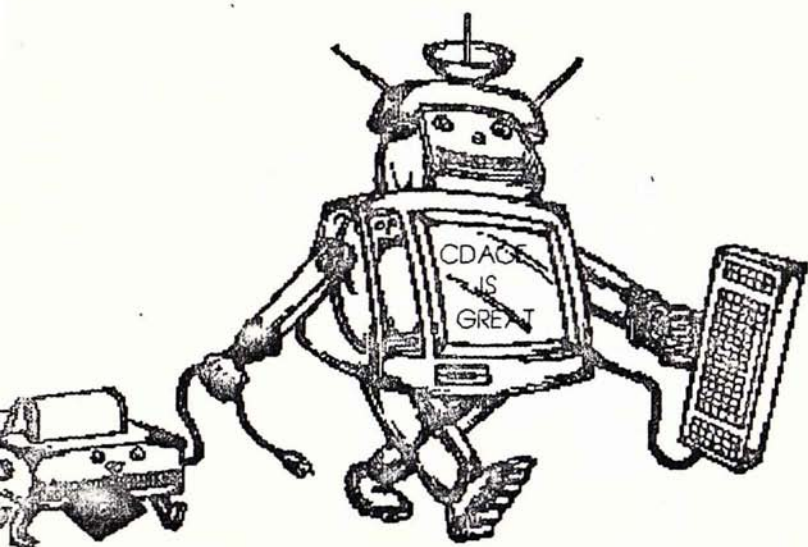


C D A C E

NEWSLETTER

October, 1987

POST OFFICE BOX 511, DELMAR NEW YORK 12054..
CDACE BBS (518) 237-1232



\$2.00

IN THE OCTOBER CDACE NEWSLETTER-

DESKTOP PUBLISHING: OBJECT DESIGN
BY STEVE GAREE

A MONTHLY REVIEW OF NEWS AND REVIEWS FROM THE
CDACE BBS
EDITED BY BILL SILVERMAN

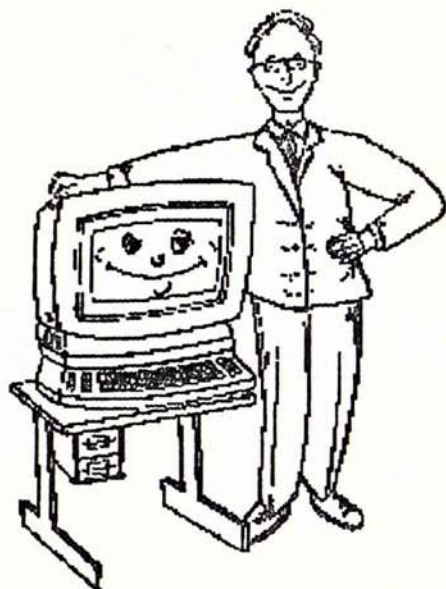
SCHOOL DAYS
BY BILL SILVERMAN

ATARI NEWS
FROM THE WIRE SERVICES

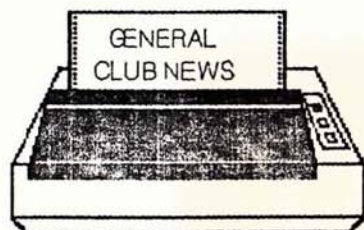
GFA BASIC COMPANION
PRESS RELEASE

GENERAL CLUB NEWS

THE CDACE NEWSLETTER WOULD WELCOME ARTICLES,
CLIP ART, GRAPHICS. GAME AND SOFTWARE REVIEWS
PERSONAL COMPUTER OPINIONS AND EXPERIENCES ARE
ALL WELCOME



ABOUT CDACE



THE CAPITOL DISTRICT ATARI COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS SERVES ALBANY, SCHENECTADY, RENNELLEAR, SARATOGA AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES IN UPSTATE NEW YORK.

THE OCTOBER MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE UNITED MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH ON HOOSICK STREET IN TROY. SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE CHURCH WE HOPE TO HAVE OUR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER MEETINGS ON THE THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH OF THOSE MONTHS.

THE CLUB ACTIVELY PROMOTES THE USE OF ALL ATARI COMPUTERS THROUGH DEMONSTRATION AND APPLICATION. OTHER CLUB ACTIVITIES INCLUDE A BBS, SIGS, AND THIS NEWSLETTER. IN ADDITION THE CLUB HAS EXTENSIVE PUBLIC DOMAIN LIBRARIES FOR THE XE AND ST COMPUTERS AND FREQUENTLY OFFERS GROUP BUYING BENEFITS TO CLUB MEMBERS.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CLUB MEMBERSHIP PLEASE CONTACT:

PETER KNAPIK OR
CDACE PRESIDENT
(518) 783-3415

BILL SILVERMAN
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
(518) 439-6465

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IS CURRENTLY \$15.00.

DIRECTIONS

THE CDACE GENERAL MEETING IS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED FROM EVERYWHERE IN THE CAPITOL DISTRICT. USING ANY OF THE MAIN ARTERIALS, INTERSTATE 90, 787 OR THE NORTHWAY, GO TO NEW ALTERNATE ROUTE 7 AND CROSS THE COLLAR CITY BRIDGE INTO TROY. GO UP TO THE TOP OF HOOSICK STREET AND THE MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH IS ON THE RIGHT. PARK IN THE BANK PARKING LOT ACROSS THE STREET.

CDACE BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT - PETER Knapik, 783-3415
ST VICE PRESIDENT/LIBRARIAN - STEVE GAREE, 489-0355
TREASURER - Ray HENNESSY, 371-2690
BBS SYSOP - Ed LAFORTUNE, 235-7044
XE LIBRARIAN - Ted CAYRE, 374-1503
NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE - DON SZAROWSKI, 239-6763
NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Bill SILVERMAN, 439-6465

CDACE BBS 237-1232
CAPITOL DISTRICT ATARI COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS
PO BOX 511
DELMAR NY 12054

DESKTOP PUBLISHING: OBJECT DESIGN by Steve Garee

I have often written on the new and old printing technologies available to the computer owner. Recently, I came across an interesting idea on the Mac Roundtable of GENIE. It was a MacPaint file of a set of buildings that could be printed and assembled to create a small town.

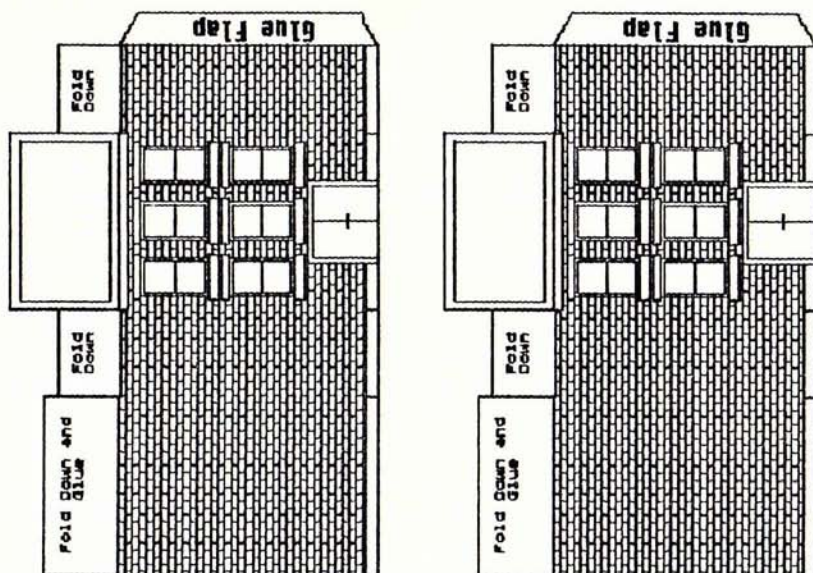
One of the difficulties of working with MacPaint files is that they are approximately 1 and 1/2 ST screens in length. PicSwitch, a shareware program available from our library and on GENIE, will however print the MacPaint screen in total on your printer or convert to a compressed form of the ST screen. As an aside, if you don't have this program, you should. It is without doubt the finest graphics tool available for the ST for file conversion.

Once the file was printed, I noticed that the art was good, but the construction of the box itself was poor by modern box making standards. That is where this article is leading. Once you have a decent box construction, any computer owner can print covers for gift boxes, toy towns or even construction projects similar to those in The Toy Shop by Broderbund. Most printers will accept very thin poster card stock, so that you don't even have to glue a top cover to cardboard if you don't want to.

How to Construct a Decent Box

The simplest of boxes is a simple rectangular block. It has one side glue area and may have a top or bottom or both, glued or unglued. Any glued areas should be done with a hot glue gun, as this will give the carton the same strength as any commercially available box in the stores. This requires some adeptness with hot tools and is not recommended for young children. In this case, substitute paper or rubber cement. All boxes made today are die-cut and ruled, but since you don't have a multi-ton stamping machine some techniques are still applicable. All folds must be made on the face of the carton. They should be made with a thin dull blade, a butter knife will be preferable. You

draw the knife along the fold line and this crease. The card stock. When it is folded, the crease will be razor sharp. If you are using a paper cover on cardboard, try and make any exposed edges or corners have a slightly rounded cut. This will prevent delamination of the cover and the carton will stand up to handling much better. Figure 1 shows a typical construction which should suffice in 90% of your projects.



Have fun with your box-building projects and let's see some of the fruits of your artistic skills.

Note: the Newsletter is looking for original art work or graphics from CDACE members. We can use graphics in just about any format from an ST or XL computer. The graphics would be featured on the front page of the Newsletter.

Your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Bill Silverman, Newsletter Editor

BBS TALK FROM THE CDACE BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEM
300/1200 BAUD 237-1232 24 HOURS A DAY

A monthly review of news and views from the BBS
PROGRAMMING INFORMATION AND UTILITIES

HELP! How to move text from one computer system or software package to another.

MSG BASE- GENERAL Rec'd Msg has reply 01764 STEVE GAREE TO DONALD PARSONS REPLY TO *01748 BINARY TEXT 12:27:00 am 09/23/87

You are covering many different topics here. In the ST an EOL or end of line is an ASCII LF and CR combo. In some programs and machines all that is necessary is a CR. In STWriter the ATASCII EOL is used to allow it to accept AtariWriter files, but on print to disk a standard EOL is used. Now, in all machines ASCII(standard) covers only the first 128 characters. In most machines, the upper 128 characters are quite different and WordStar and WordPerfect use these upper characters for formatting commands and in Wordstar's case for line formatting commands albeit invisible to the user. This can cause a great hardship to users.

For STWriter users such as myself if the file is to be transferred to any WP using standard ASCII load file, print to disk is mandatory (file re direction). Also, for the ST user is a utility called ELVERT which will not only substitute standard EOL for ATASCII EOL but vice versa. It will also do full strips. I have written my own program to scrub Wordstar files of these formatting commands. To convert any program to straight binary, it is a fairly easy function of the DOS Copy command or Binary Save in DOS 2.0 if you can identify the beginning and length of the file. A photograph of the file so to speak from memory. This is beyond my scope because I have forgotten so much from my 6502 assembler days. Lastly, may I suggest a book I saw recently that showed the file formats of Wordperfect, Lotus, Dbase and several other programs. I do not remember the title but it may still be available at your local bookstore. Conversions between dialects is difficult because what the screen shows you and what is present in the file may be entirely different. If you do not think so ask a Commodore Basic programmer. Steve Garee

MSG BASE- GENERAL Msg has reply 01812 DR. AT BEE TO 800/XL/XE ATARIANS DR. AT BEE IS HERE 08:36:00 pm 09/30/87

Allow me to introduce myself. I am Dr. At Bee. A doctor of Atari Basic. The CDACE BBS has been added to my electronic rounds and I will be making BBS calls on a regular basis. To call your basic doctor all you have to do is leave a message to DR. AT BEE. I have a lot of medicine to fix basic problems and a pretty fair memory map for navigating those tricky peeks and pokes. remember, DR. AT BEE is here!

CDACE INFORMATION/ QUESTIONS/ ANSWERS

01730 STEVE GAREE TO BILL SILVERMAN REPLY TO *01721 ST/XE GENIE MESSAGES 08:50:49 pm 09/17/87

Is your mailbox in Delmar the official one for renewals and new memberships? Lastly, if it is could you post it for me? Later, Steve

MSG BASE- GENERAL 01769 BILL SILVERMAN TO STEVE GAREE REPLY
*01730 ST/XE GENIE MESSAGES 10:21:57 am 09/23/87

As of this date the address for Newsletter correspondence is:

CDACE
PO BOX 511
DELMAR NY 12054

People sending their club renewals to this address can be assured of three things -

1. they will be updated/ added to the newsletter mailing list
2. their BBS password will be passed on to the SYSOP within a couple of days of receipt of the membership renewal
3. their check will given to the Club treasurer at the next board meeting.

In addition club members on the Newsletter mailing list will receive at least one personalized (but plain and unadorned), and maybe two, post cards reminding them that their membership is about to expire. These post cards have been mailed the month before and sometimes the month of membership expiration. Bill (-,-)

GAMES AND OPINIONS

MSG BASE- GENERAL Msg has reply 01737 JIM WAGNER TO ALL WAR GAMES AND SIMULATIONS 09:27:07 pm 09/18/87

How many war-gamers do we have out there? I started about a year ago with SILENT SERVICE and became hooked. I was playing it into the wee hours of the morning for months. I think it is a super simulation. My next game was U.S.A. A.P. which I bought about four months ago and again I was hooked. This game takes a long time to play. I have spent as much as four weeks playing a campaign game, and have sat in front of the old ATARI for as long as six hours at a stretch! My wife sometimes thinks I have integrated myself into the computer itself. I love to play this game however and I just can not seem to drag myself away at times. My late challenge has been with the old standby EASTERN FRONT. I bought it game on sale about a year ago for \$9.95, but I put it away and never played it up until a week ago. Now I have become hooked on it. It is a VERY frustrating game because it is virtually impossible to win. The game is VERY addictive however so will to fight on continues. How about us wargamers getting some dialog going to share strategies and tips? Sometimes I need all the help I can get (especially EASTERN FRONT)! Jim

MSG BASE- GENERAL 01740 CDACE SYSOP TO JIM WAGNER REPLY TO
*01737 WAR GAMES AND SIMULATIONS 10:36:49 pm 09/18/87

HI AGAIN. I'M AN "OLD" WARGAMER. GOING BACK TO THE SSI AND AVALON HILL BOARDGAMES. YOU ARE RIGHT, YOU CAN GET LOST FOR HOURS!!! I'D HAVE TO SAY MY FAVORITE COMPUTER GAME IS "CARRIER FORCE", WITH "BATTLE FOR NORMANDY" RUNNING SECOND. I PREFER SEA ACTION AS I DO NOT HAVE TO PAY ATTENTION TO TERRAIN. HEY, I NEVER SAID I WAS GOOD, JUST HOOKED!!!! LATER, ED

MSG BASE- GENERAL 01751 CHARLIE STANCARONE TO JIM WAGNER REPLY TO *01737 WAR GAMES AND SIMULATIONS 03:20:10 pm 09/20/87

HEY JIM, I'M INTO WAR GAMES TO A DEGREE. MY LATEST CHALLENGE HAS BEEN "MECH BRIGADE". ONCE I FINALLY FIGURED OUT WHAT "SSI" WAS TRYING TO SAY IN THEIR INSTRUCTIONS, I STARTED ENJOYING THE GAME A BIT MORE. I STILL GET TRASHED EVERY TIME I PLAY BUT AT

.....LEAST NOW I'M GETTING SOME IDEA WHAT I'M DOING WRONG. BY FAR MY BEST WARGAME SO FAR (BESIDES SILENT SERVICE) IS AVALON HILLS 'GULF STRIKE'. IT'S EASY TO PLAY AND IF YOU STICK WITH IT YOU CAN WIN DECISIVELY. A.H. HAS A NEW GAME SIMILAR TO 'GULF STRIKE', WHICH I CAN NOT REMEMBER THE NAME OF RIGHT NOW. IT'S BASED ON THE SAME GAME FORMULA BUT I BELIEVE IT'S IN THE WW II ERA. AS SOON AS I SEE IT I'M GOING TO BUY IT. (THAT'S IF I CAN REMEMBER THE NAME). ANY OTHER WAR GAMERS IN THE CROWD?

.....CHARLIE...

MSG BASE- GENERAL 01771 BILL SILVERMAN TO JIM WAGNER REPLY TO *01737 WAR GAMES AND SIMULATIONS 10:36:33 am 09/23/87

I am also an Eastern Front addict. I have found the satisfaction of the game must rest not on winning the game board - advancing all the way to right side of the board - but on how well I lose. As you say loss is inevitable. By the way, the disk version is vastly more playable than the cart version. see ya, Bill

MSG BASE- GENERAL Rec'd 01780 JIM WAGNER TO CHARLIE STANCARONE REPLY TO *01751 WAR GAMES AND SIMULATIONS 08:33:58 pm 09/23/87

I am having similar problems with EASTERN FRONT- those ruskies are tough! I get blown away EVERY time I play. But I keep going back for more! No fooling me huh! COMPUTER GAMING WORLD lists this as an introductory level game. Boy! am I glad its not an advanced level--I'd probably have my computer itself surrounded and destroyed! Good luck! Jim

MSG BASE- GENERAL 01787 BILL SILVERMAN TO JIM WAGNER EASTERN FRONT 01:26:10 am 09/25/87

) THE disk version of Eastern front is a one level game. As the game is loading you can give yourself (the germs) an advantage in combat strength by pressing the option key (? or maybe one of the other one's do not really remember). There are no other 'options' available in the program.

THE cart version has four levels of play, beginner, intermediate, advanced, and expert. Each level has progressively more complex combat options with the EXPERT level including air squadrons, and march, entrench, combat, and normal, options for each division. The advanced level is the approximate equal of the disk game.

The cart has fancier combat noise and graphics. It also takes longer for the computer to figure out it's moves.... you cannot attack immediately week after week (turn after turn). Also the cart version (in my humble opinion) cheats ... very weak russian units (strength=30) somehow manage to attack (go left on the board) and survive the classic two unit attack maneuver - both attack the enemy unit they go in opposite directions to prevent the enemy units escape.

The main 'problem' has to do with where the program ram is spent. Both are 16K programs. The cart has four scenarios the disk one. The cart has a game save feature the disk does not. The sounds and combat graphics are a little more juiced in the cart version. These little enhancements use a little ram here and a little ram there but it all adds up and must come from somewhere! Based on the subtle differences of rules of combat and movement, it looks like the ram came from the AI routines that made the disk the historic night mare we all love to lose. In short the cart is missing the finesse and intelligence of the disk version. Bill

RESPONSES TOMAGAZINE ARTICLES

MSG BASE- GENERAL 01809 JIM WAGNER TO ALL APPLE REVIEW
09:36:30 am 09/30/87

Has anyone seen the review of the Apple Iigs in Computer Shopper? If any one mentions the 'bugs' in Atari systems you should point out this article to them! It is not a glowing report. I wonder what Consumer Reports had to say about this machine in comparison to the Atari? Jim (PS) I am not into knocking other machines - I think that they all have their place. I have 3 different brands in my own home. Atari, C-64, Timex. I just like to see fair reviews and credit where credit is due. I have seen the past articles in CR on computers and found them somewhat lacking in truth. Jim

MSG BASE- GENERAL 01830 CHARLIE STANCARONE TO JIM WAGNER
REPLY TO *01827 APPLE REVIEW 10:42:05 am 10/10/87

EVEN THOUGH THE ATARI COMPUTERS ARE VASTLY MORE USABLE THEN THE COMMODORE COMPUTERS, THE REALITY IS THAT TO THE AVERAGE CONSUMER, WHO DOES NOT CARE A BIT ABOUT PROGRAMMING, THE COMMODORE COMPUTERS ARE MORE USABLE SINCE THERE IS AVAILABLE MUCH MORE (ABOUT 10X) THE SOFTWARE ON THE MARKET. ALSO THAT SOFTWARE IS AVAILABLE EVERYWHERE.

IE. DEPARTMENT STORES, TOY STORES, CATALOG STORES, I'VE EVEN SEEN 'C64' SOFTWARE AVAILABLE IN DRUG STORES AND BOOKSTORES. ATARI SOFTWARE? MAIL ORDER THROUGH SPECIALTY MAGAZINES, WHICH THE GENERAL PUBLIC does not EVEN KNOW ABOUT, AND A HANDFUL OF COMPUTER STORES (A SMALL HANDFUL). do not GET ME WRONG, I THINK THAT THE ATARI COMPUTERS ARE THE BEST ON THE MARKET, ESPECIALLY FOR THE PRICE, BUT, FROM THE AVERAGE CONSUMERS POINT OF VIEW, THE ATARI COMPUTER HAS GONE THE WAY OF THE 'WANKEL' ENGINE. MY OPINION: I THINK THAT 'PAPA JACK' SHOULD SPEND LESS TIME CONSTANTLY INTRODUCING NEW MACHINES TO THE MARKET AND SPEND MORE TIME WOOING PRESENT EXISTING SOFTWARE COMPANIES INTO PRODUCING AND SUPPLYING MORE SOFTWARE TO THE ALREADY EXISTING COMPUTERS. NOW THAT IS MERELY MY OPINION.charlie...

ELECTRONIC TIDBITS

TURN OFF CALLWAITING: To turn off callwaiting for the duration of one call, you must in your dialing command include this string: "*70," for touch tone or "1170," for pulse dialing.

Ex.

ATDT*70.433-0062

(or ATDP1170.433-0062)

What the command does is dials the phone company code to turn off callwaiting for the duration of the call, it pauses of the comma, and then dials 433-0062. The callwaiting cancel only lasts for one call, so I would suggest adding it to your dialing string or your programs equivalent. Frustrated at callwaiting, Chris Wade

FOR SALE/ WANTED

MSG BASE- WANT AD 01758 EFSTRATIOS VARKARIS TO ALL ST
SYSTEM FOR SALE 07:08:35 pm 09/22/87

OKIMATE 20 color thermal printer for sale. Package includes printer, 520ST "Plug and print" package (hardware card, cable, software disk, users- manual), an extra new print-head, complete hardware/troubleshooting manual, roll stand, 6 black-white ribbons and 5 color ribbons. Original boxes in perfect condition. Asking price \$150.00.

520ST SOFTWARE SALE The following 520ST software titles are on sale. All packages contain original disks, manuals and boxes :

SOFTWARE TITLE/ RETAIL PRICE/ SALE PRICE

The Final Word/ 150.00/ 55.00
VIP Professional (IBM & GEM)/ 250.00/ 70.00
PC/Intercomm/ 125.00/ 50.00
AnsiGraph (VT102, TEX4014 graphics terminal em.)/ 80.00/ 30.00
Typing Tutor/Word Invaders/18.00/ 5.00
Regent Spell/ 50.00/ 15.00
MT C Shell (M/user, M/tasking UNIX-like O.S.)/ 125.00/ 35.00
MICRO C Tools/ 45.00/ 15.00
Mark Williams C Development Package(Excellent C)/ 175.00/ 75.00
Personal Pascal/ 80.00/ 28.00

Fully Hayes compatible 300/1200/2400 modem only three months old is on sale for \$235.00 The price includes the modem package (modem, transformer, cables for RS232, documentation and original boxes), and software for an ATARI 520ST or an IBM compatible PC.

If interested, call 276-5504.

MSG BASE- WANT AD 01833 CDACE SYSOP TO ALL SX212 MODEMS
04:34:27 pm 10/11/87

THE ATARI SX 212 300/1200 BAUD MODEMS ARE IN STOCK • THE LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR. IF ANYONE WANTS ONE, THEY ARE \$89.95 + TAX. LEAVE ME A LOGOFF MESSAGE OR CALL ME • 235-7044 AT PRESENT THERE IS NO SOFTWARE AVAILABLE FOR USING THIS MODEM IN A "DIRECT CONNECT" HOOK-UP TO ATARI 8-BIT COMPUTERS. THEY WILL WORK THRU THE 850 INTERFACE HOWEVER. ATARI HAD ONE UP AND RUNNING AT THE SHOW IN WORCESTER (10/10-11) AND IT WAS HOOKED-UP DIRECT AND RUNNING KEITH LEDBETTERS "SX EXPRESS". I NOT, HOWEVER, GET ANY WORD AS TO WHEN SX EXPRESS WOULD BE RELEASED. LATER, ED.

MSG BASE- WANT AD 01837 BILL SILVERMAN TO CDACE SYSOP REPLY
TO #01833 SX212 MODEMS 11:08:21 am 10/12/87

there is a PD SIO handler available on either Genie or CIS (not sure which) which will drive the SX212 through the SIO port of an XL/XE it was written up in one of the Newsletters we get from other clubs. I believe the program is called "R-VERTER" (but dont hold me to this) and allows the SX212 to work through the SIO with A modem 7.5(?) and Hometerm. Some of you folks out there who want an inexpensive 1200B Hayes compatible modem for your XL or XE might want to pursue CIS and Genie to find the program. If the device handler works with A modem and Hometerm it should work with any other terminal software that follows the rules. Bill

SCHOOL DAYS
by Bill Silverman,
CDACE Newsletter Editor

One of the side effects of changing careers is 're-education.' I had the opportunity, over the past few months, to take a 'computer courses for teachers.' As a computer person the course was doubly informative.

The course was called 'COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN THE CLASSROOM' In reality it was how to use Appleworks. This course afforded me a hands on use of the Apple II family computers. It was shocking.

For those of you unfamiliar with Appleworks it has been billed as an integrated Spreadsheet/ Database/ Word Proccessing package. Applework's two main claims to fame is it's ability to keep multiple files in memory (11K buffer in a 64K machine 54K in a 128K machine) and the use of a disk based clipboard file to move text from the database or spreadsheet to the word proccessor and to move DIF type files to and from the DB and Spreadsheet.

Appleworks was decidedly inferior to every word preccessor I have used for the XL or XE. Paper Clip, Atari Writer and Letter Perfect are all have more functions and better editing as well as companion spell checkers. SynFile easily outperforms the Appleworks spreadsheet from the standpoints of user freindly features, number of functions and overall performance. Sadly, SynFile is not the equal of Appleworks in database management although it is the perfect companion for compatibility with Paper Clip, Atari Writer and SynFile. Data Perfect which is a very powerful database manager suffers from incompatibility with everything else.

The age (lack of sophistication) of the Apple II computers and Appleworks was clearly evident in the computers menu graphics,

keystroke sequences, and built in editing features. The XL or XE keyboards and the Atari operating system produce a much more enhanced environment from the software developer to begin from. (bet you didn't know that many your Atari's editing features are actually part of the computer's ROM). My belief that the Atari XL or XE are superior machines was confirmed by this course. But the XEs do not have a software combination that equals the perceived value/ utility of Appleworks.

Appleworks is the number one productively software for the Apple, and Apple manages all facets of Appleworks. The competitive message is clear - Atari needs an integrated package like Appleworks for both the XE and ST. Appleworks appears to be a classic example of software driving hardware sales.

From an educational viewpoint there was a sad reflection. The Apple II series of computers are archaic in the fast paced world of computer development. They are older than everything else and have been quite literally handed down to the children of this country to learn on. Compared to MACs or STs they are intimidating for children use. At the university where I took my courses Apples were used for the 'primary and secondary teacher courses,' IBM type computers were used for higher level courses and MACs were rarely seen for any purpose. I thought it was a sad commentary on how the educational needs of young children and their teachers were prioritized.

ATARI EXTENDS \$70 MILLION TENDER OFFER FOR FEDERATED GROUP TAKEOVER OFFER

SUNNYVALE, Calif. (SEPT. 28) UPI - Atari Corp. said Monday that it extended a \$6.25 per share tender offer for stock in the Federated Group Inc. until midnight. The offer, which is to end at 12:00 a.m. Monday, had been scheduled to terminate on Sept. 25. Sunnyvale, Calif.-based Atari on Aug. 24 made the \$70 million offer to buy Federated, a Los Angeles-based national retailer of home entertainment and consumer electronics. Federated has about 10.8 million outstanding shares.

Atari, which makes computers and video games, said that the extension would give both companies and their bankers time to prepare documents and to coordinate the deal with the closing of Atari's third fiscal quarter on Oct. 3. Federated's chairman, Wlfred Schwartz, his family, and three other company officers and their families early this month said they have tendered about 6.5 million shares, representing 61 percent of the company's stock.

ATARI, FEDERATED GROUP EXTEND TENDER OFFER FOR SECOND TIME TENDER OFFER

SUNNYVALE, Calif. (SEPT. 29) PRWIRE - Atari Corporation (AMEX, PSE: ATC) and the Federated Group, Inc. jointly announced a second extension of Atari's tender offer for Federated's shares to midnight, Sept. 29, 1987. The tender offer had initially been scheduled to terminate on Sept. 25, 1987, and had been extended to Sept. 28, 1987. The purpose of the further extension is to allow Atari, Federated, and Federated's bank lenders to complete documentation for the closing. To date, approximately 95 percent of outstanding shares of Federated have been validly tendered.

ATARI OFFER FOR FEDERATED GROUP ENDS WITH 96% OF SHARES TENDERED OFFER ENDS

SUNNYVALE, Calif. (OCT. 5) PRWIRE - Atari Corporation (AMEX, PSE: ATC) has announced the closing of its tender offer for all of the outstanding shares of the Federated Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: FEGP), effective as of midnight EDT, Oct. 4. Approximately 96 percent of outstanding shares of Federated have been validly tendered. Atari is a leading international manufacturer and marketer of personal computer systems and video games. Federated sells home entertainment and consumer electronics products through a chain of retail stores.

GFA BASIC SUPPORT

MichTron announces the release of The GFA BASIC Companion, a dedicated RCS package designed to create dialog boxes and more for GFA BASIC programs.

GFA BASIC owners now have a new, incredibly useful tool available that will cut the time and annoyance often (if not always) associated with programming in GEM with BASIC. Already the possessors of the best BASIC available for any computer, GFA users can now build Radio Button Boxes, Dialog Boxes, Help Text Boxes, Sliders, Error Boxes, and more with The GFA BASIC Companion. They can even design their own custom boxes with the companion's amazing dialog box source code generator.

Best of all, these objects, once created, are stored in GFABASIC's ASCII.LST file format so they can be studied, modified, or merged into a GFA BASIC program.

The GFA BASIC Companion Dialog box source code generator produces quick Dialog Boxes easily so even the newest programmers can give their programs an elegant, professional look, but the Custom Design Option gives the total control and creativity necessary to satisfy the hungriest of "power

users".

The GFA BASIC Companion will change the way you think about programming in GFA BASIC on the ST. You'll find that by using several of the GFA BASIC resident commands you can create a versatile user interface that will mimic routines available in the GEM AES, but in an adaptive format that is easier to learn and change. Altering one of these routines is simply a matter of loading the BAS. or LST. file into the GFA BASIC Editor and changing the desired portions in a real time mode that allows immediate testing of all your changes. This isn't possible in a standard RCS, such as the one included in the ATARI ST developers kit. Consider the time that will be saved and the headaches that will be cured by such an interface.

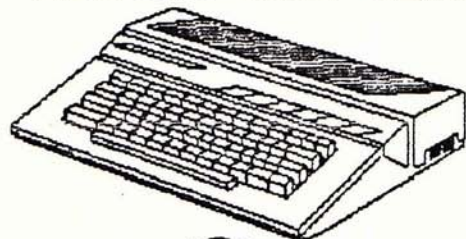
Other attractions of The GFA BASIC Companion include an extensive online Tutorial that may be viewed from a window, or printed out for further study.

A demonstration of this amazing product can be Downloaded from the CompuServe ATARI 16 libraries or from GENie's Michtron Roundtable. If you would like to take look at the capabilities of The GFA BASIC Companion, you may send for a Demo Disk. Specify color or monochrome and send five dollars (\$5) to :

MichTron, Inc.
576 South Telegraph
Pontiac, Michigan 48053
(313) 334-5700

The GFA BASIC Companion is an exciting addition to your library of GFA BASIC products and is available from MichTron for \$49.95.

CAPITOL DISTRICT ATARI
COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS
POST OFFICE BOX 511
DELMAR NEW YORK 12094



22 USA



RENEWAL DATE: 1/ 1/1999

NEWS EXCHANG S.L.C.C. JOURNAL

PO BOX 1506

SAN LEANDRO CA

94577-03